

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action mailed March 29, 2004. To correct various typographical errors, Applicant amends Claims 103, 104, and 106. In order to advance prosecution of this Application, Applicant has responded to each notation by the Examiner. Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are in a condition of allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

In the Specification

Applicant requests that the Examiner accept the corrections made to the Related Applications section of the Specification and requests the issuance of a corrected Filing Receipt showing the corrections.

The Non-Statutory Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3, 6-20, 56, 58, and 61-64 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over various issued U.S. Patents. Without conceding the veracity of any double patenting rejection, but instead solely for the purpose moving this case expediently to issuance, Applicant files herewith a Terminal Disclaimer obviating the double patenting rejection

Subject Matter Indicated as Allowable

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed Claims 2, 4-5, 21-24, 27-42, 44-47, 50-53, 55, 57, 59-60, 65, 67-75, 77-90, 92-103, and 105.

Applicant also appreciates the Examiner's notation that Claims 1, 3, 6-20, 56, 58, and 61-64 would be allowable following submission of an acceptable terminal disclaimer. Applicant has submitted herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the double patenting rejection. Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and requests favorable action with respect to all pending claims.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objects to Claims 104 and 106 as being improper dependent claims. Applicant has amended Claims 104 and 106 to depend from Claims 103 and 105, respectively. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

CONCLUSION

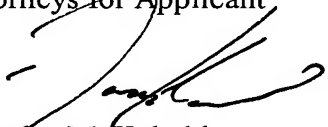
Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. Because this Response places all claims in condition for allowance and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicant respectfully requests that this Response be entered and full allowance of all pending Claims.

Applicant does not believe that any additional fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If the Examiner feels that a conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, Douglas M. Kubehl stands willing to conduct such a telephone interview at the convenience of the Examiner. Mr. Kubehl may be reached at 214-953-6486.

Respectfully submitted,

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